



AFTER ARRAIGNMENT: Nathaniel (Pep) Johnson, 18, is escorted from Fifth District court by Benton Harbor Patrolman Delmar Lange after arraignment on murder charge in death of grocer Sam Baum. Murder warrant was served on Johnson Tuesday morning in Berrien Circuit court where he was standing trial for breaking and entering. Jury returned guilty verdict Tuesday night. (Staff photo)

Three Suspects Being Held In Baum Murder

Two teenage brothers and a 23-year-old man were arrested yesterday by Benton Harbor police on murder charges in the slaying Monday of grocer Sam Baum.

One of the suspects was taken into custody at Berrien county

courthouse where he was on trial for breaking and entering, another was arrested at Fair Avenue Recreation, in Benton township and the third suspect was arrested at the intersection of High street and Jefferson court.

Police also said another warrant has been issued for a "John Doe," allegedly the driver of a get-away car.

Served with a murder warrant in circuit court was Nathaniel (Pep) Johnson, 18, of 560 Edwards avenue, Benton Harbor. He had been free on \$750 bond on a breaking and entering charge and stood trial yesterday.

A jury Tuesday night returned a verdict of guilty of breaking and entering against Johnson and a co-defendant, Darnell Tyler, 18, of 243 Ross street. The offense occurred last Aug. 13 in Benton Harbor.

The jury was not informed of the murder charge against Nathaniel Johnson. Circuit Judge Chester J. Byrns ordered jurors sequestered without their knowledge to prevent prejudice against Johnson who was served with the murder warrant shortly before noon.

He demanded examination on the murder charge in arraignment before District Judge Leo K. Cook and was held without bond.

His brother, Anthony Leroy Johnson, 19, of the same address, was to be arraigned today on a charge of murder. Det. Lt. Harold Harris said Anthony Johnson was arrested Tuesday at 3 p.m.

The third suspect to be arrested was Amos Ray, Jr., 23, of 370 Walnut avenue, Benton township. He was the driver of a car that Benton Harbor police stopped near the intersection of High street and Jefferson court Tuesday at 10:55 p.m.

Police records show Anthony Johnson was sentenced to 2 to 10 years in prison in 1970 for an unarmed robbery in which a woman sustained a broken arm. He was 16 at the time and was waived into adult court. He was released on parole in April, 1971.

Benton Harbor police said Nathaniel Johnson's only arrest (See back page, sec. 1, col. 3)



ANTHONY LEROY JOHNSON



AMOS RAY, JR.



Mystery Vigil

For at least four days, this dog has been keeping watch over pile of rubble off Old M-139 near Somerleyton bridge in Benton township. Dog was discovered by Mrs. Herb Harness of nearby Valley View drive. Mrs. Harness has been feeding the female Shepherd and says the dog is very friendly but won't leave the area. Dog's usual

resting place is on jacket under table. Her presence poses questions: Is rubble from dog's former home? Is jacket that of a missing master who might have drowned in St. Joseph river? Fishermen park cars along old M-139, but there is no abandoned car and no report of a missing person. Rubble is being used for fill. (Staff photo)

Tax Increase Unlikely For Berrien In 1974

BY BRANDON BROWN
Staff Writer

Berrien county commissioners' finance committeemen Tuesday previewed for newsmen a tentative 1974 county budget noteworthy for two reasons — it's some 8 per cent over the 1973 final budget and likely could be funded at about the present tax rate.

In years past, tentative budgets earned the title "wish book" because they contained hundreds of thousands of dollars in fat that commissioners slashed before adopting a final budget in

the fall. But not now, according to Finance Chairman Lad Stacey.

"This is a very conservative, very realistic budget that we hope will require very little work to come out with a final budget this fall," he said.

"I get tired of playing cat and mouse games, frankly. It's hard to defend something you know must be cut."

Stacey's committee previewed the budget with newsmen Tuesday in the courthouse, St. Joseph. It goes to commissioners (See back page, sec. 1, col. 1)

'Fascinating,' Says Debbie POW Awes Queens

BY SCOTT WILLIAMSON
Staff Writer

GREAT LAKES, ILL.—What kind of a man would a Blossom Queen hold in awe?

If you're Miss Blossomtime, Debbie Zemke, of Bridgman, or Miss Watervliet, Missy Young, or Miss Benton Harbor, Jill Herman, his name would be Richard Ratzlaff.

Ratzlaff is of medium build and height, has sandy hair, and is a Lt. Commander in the Navy. He was also a POW.

**ADDITIONAL STORY AND
PICTURES ON PAGE 25.**

The 30-year-old Ratzlaff has been recuperating in Great

Lakes Naval hospital since he was released by the North Vietnamese in February.

"I just wish I could have asked him more questions," stated Miss Blossomtime. "He was fascinating."

"He was really interesting," added Missy Young. "I really enjoyed talking to him."

"I don't believe it,"

exclaimed Jill Herman.

Miss Herman was in a mild state of happy shock after she asked Ratzlaff if he knew the man whose name was on the POW bracelet she had been wearing for over a year.

When he replied that he knew Lt. Cmdr. Giles Norington, Jill

(See back page, sec. 1, col. 3)



HEROES AND QUEENS: Miss Blossomtime and her court met a POW and the Army Aviator of the Year in officers ward while visiting Great Lakes Naval hospital. Chatting are (from left) Blossom Queen Debbie Zemke, Bridgman; Army Capt. Ronald

Radcliffe, Aviator of the Year in 1972; Navy Lt. Cmdr. Richard Ratzlaff, who was released in February after being held by Communists for about six years; Missy Young, Miss Watervliet; and Jill Herman, Miss Benton Harbor. (Staff photos)

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BUTTONHOLING A SOLON: Paul Haring, a retired teacher association committee chief, buttonholes Sen. Charles Zollar Tuesday night after a meeting in which Haring asked how teachers could force Lansing to increase benefits for teacher retirees struggling along on small pensions. (Staff photo)

Flood 'Em With Mail, Retirees Are Told

BY BRANDON BROWN
Staff Writer

BERRIEN SPRINGS — State legislators last night told retired area teachers they and their 29,000 Michigan compatriots should flood a House committee and chief justice of the Michigan Supreme Court with letters to force increased benefits for teacher retirees.

Some, especially those who retired 4 to 5 years ago and more, struggle along on state-paid pensions of \$100 to under \$400 monthly and no cost-of-living clause to catch inflation, according to Paul Haring of Benton Harbor. Haring is chairman of the Berrien County

Retired Public School Employees association legislation committee and a 1969 retiree from the Benton Harbor system after 37 years.

State Sen. Charles Zollar (R-Benton Harbor) and Rep. Harry Gast (R-St. Joseph) recommended that retired teachers statewide flood Chief Justice Thomas M. Kavanagh and House appropriations committee Chairman William R. Copeland (D-Wyandotte) and his committeemen with appeals to force:

—The supreme court to rule on retroactivity to July 1, 1972, for the section of Public Act 258 which would grant retirees a 1 per cent year increase in

benefits up to 15 per cent. That ruling would clear the way for its enactment.

—Copeland's committee to act on proposed House Bill 4307, a replacement for one which died in committee last year, to give teacher retirees a cost-of-living increase.

Gast said he sympathizes with retirees but their retirement

(See back page, sec. 1, col. 7)

After May 1st, Leathers Schwinn Cyclery will be closed all day Mondays. Adv.

Saddles. Save to 40% at Tacy's, M-140, Watervliet, open Sun. Adv.

THE HERALD-PRESS

Editorial Page

W. J. Banyon, Editor and Publisher
Bert Lindenfeld, Managing Editor

Revising The American Map

Dr. Stanley D. Brunn, a geographer in charge of MSU's Computer Institute for Social Science Research, is the latest advocate to publicize a reshuffling of state boundaries.

He would regroup the 50 states into 16 regions which are fairly similar in economic orientation, social and cultural heritage, and political ideology.

Florida would be the only member of the Union to remain virtually intact under the name of "Tropicana."

The others would be transferred both wholesale and partially into new entities.

Dr. Brunn would parcel out Michigan in three directions.

The Upper Peninsula would be shifted into what he calls North Plains, an area running from the Soo to eastern Montana and northern Nebraska.

The larger slice of the lower peninsula would be transferred into South Heartland. This would be the eastern part of our state, all of Ohio, a slice of eastern Indiana, northern Kentucky, the westerly half of West Virginia, the western tip of New York and the western third of Pennsylvania.

Shades of Columbus, Ohio, and Woody Hayes, Dr. Brunn would make Detroit its capital city.

The westerly slice of Michigan, our area would join Wisconsin, most of Illinois, Iowa, parts of Minnesota and most of Indiana in North Heartland.

Mayor Daley, if he lived long enough and remained a Chicago resident, might be its first governor since the Windy City would be the capitol.

Dr. Brunn is sufficient of a realist to know his plan will gather dust for untold aeons if it or some variation of it is accepted.

Artificially drawn as are the state boundaries, historical loyalties are stronger than governmental efficiency.

One need only to look at eight to ten local units puddling around in the problems of the Twin City community to realize which prevails in that kind of tug-o-war.

It is impossible, though, to dispute his contention that the state boundaries emerged from the agrarian age of the 18th and 19th centuries and are not attuned to a 20th century culture which already is emerging from an industrial status into one still not fully understood, much less being named.

The original 13 colonies evolved from localized conditions and political happenstance.

Massachusetts remains a small area because its single family farming of three centuries ago did not foster a great reaching out into the wilderness.

Agriculture in Virginia encouraged, in fact, demanded, a wide reach-out.

At one point in its Revolutionary War era the colony claimed dominion over a vast area beyond the Blue Ridge range, including our own lower peninsula.

The country has numerous ghost states, territories bearing names all but forgotten and given expression for reasons which never passed time's demanding muster.

States named Franklin, Jefferson, Deseret, New Connecticut, Kanawha and Susquehanna might exist today, had history taken different turns. These were all once wouldbe states or territories. Today they lie buried on forgotten maps of America's early years.

The state of Franklin had a governor, constitution, courts and capital in the mountains of what is now northeast Tennessee. Set up at Jonesboro in 1784 when North Carolina gave over her western land to federal protection, Franklin for five years knocked vainly at the nation's door for admission.

Franklin, the coonskin republic, was officially superseded by the Territory South of the River Ohio. John Sevier, "Nolichucky Jack," Franklin's first and only governor, a decade later became the first governor of the state of Tennessee.

In 1859, miners around Pikes Peak formed a Territory of Jefferson and sent a delegate to Congress. During the next two years Jefferson incorporated the city of Denver and set many land titles. Then Congress gave it a new name: Colorado.

Deseret lasted longest of all. Organized in 1849 by the Mormons at Salt Lake City, the proposed territory embraced a wide area extending from the Rockies to the Sierra Nevada, plus a strip of Pacific coast near San Diego.

Congress rejected the name chosen by the Latter Day Saints and established a much smaller Territory of Utah in 1850. Again in 1861, however, the Mormons founded a State of Deseret. Its ghost government met and passed laws for nine years while waiting in vain for recognition. A stone tablet bearing Deseret's name in the Washington Monument is one of its few physical reminders today.

During the Civil War Congress was petitioned to recognize a new state of Kanawha. It was formed by Virginia's western counties that refused to secede. Popular vote a few months later changed the name to West Virginia.

Susquehanna was a state envisioned by the fiery John Franklin, to be carved from northeast Pennsylvania by settlers from Connecticut.

There were other names of almost states. All now belong to a ghostly roster in history.

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Uncomfortable



GLANCING BACKWARDS

SJ SENIORS WIN SCHOLARSHIPS

— 1 Year Ago —

Two St. Joseph high school seniors are winners of National Merit Scholarships of \$1,000 each.

Among some 1,000 winners in the U.S. announced today by the National Merit Scholarship corporation are Debra L. Lambrecht, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard G. Lambrecht, 2625 Lakeview avenue, St. Joseph, and

Katherine McKnight, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon McKnight, 2323 Niles avenue, St. Joseph. The awards are non-renewable one-time grants.

BAND CONCERT ON SUNDAY

— 10 Years Ago —

Four St. Joseph school bands will present a concert Sunday which will mark the last official appearance of John E.N. Howard, director of instrumental music for the past 16 years. The concert will feature the

all city sixth grade band, the junior high A and B bands and the senior high band.

APPROVE PLANT

— 29 Years Ago —

Post-war construction of a joint St. Joseph-Benton Harbor sewage disposal plant, to be operated jointly by a special board and financed by means of revenue bonds, took a long forward jump when the city commissions of St. Joseph and Benton Harbor, meeting informally in Benton Harbor, approved of the proposal.

Formal action will be taken by each commission next Monday night, when, meeting separately in regular sessions, they will approve resolutions drawn up by City Attorney A. Edward Brown, of St. Joseph, and City Attorney Wilbur M. Cunningham of Benton Harbor, authorizing City Managers Herman G. Crow and John F. Hull to employ engineers to draw up preliminary plans, specifications and estimates which will be submitted to the two commissions and the state for approval.

MISS BUCHANAN

— 39 Years Ago —

Edna Nelson, a brunette, has been chosen in Buchanan as Blossom Queen candidate.

BUY FARM

— 49 Years Ago —

The William R. Fishers of Chicago have arrived and are occupying the farm recently bought from J.A. Flanigan at Royaltown Heights. The Fishers will make this their permanent home.

IN OPERATION SOON

— 59 Years Ago —

The Denton furniture factory, first firm to be secured for St. Joseph through efforts of the development company, will be in operation within a week.

HONOR GRADS

— 83 Years Ago —

The honors of valedictorian and salutatorian of the class of 1890 which will graduate from the St. Joseph high school the first of June go to Miss Mary Van Brunt and Matthias Weber.

Roy Cromley

Fuel Crisis Is Our Own Fault



WASHINGTON (NEA) — Over the long run there is no valid reason for a fuel-energy crisis.

Over the short run, the only excuse is lack of foresight. For the potential available sources of fuel and energy are great beyond imagination.

As long as this reporter can remember, it has been clear to scientists that the United States would run into energy shortages unless decisive long range action was taken. We have known for decades that control of our oil supplies eventually would fall into the hands of Middle East nations, which could prove disastrous to the U.S. political, economic and national security interests.

For more than 20 years scientific and industry conferences have detailed these predictions with technical precision. Inevitably these scientists had practical solutions:

★ For the long range — the development of solar energy which could provide great amounts of power for literally millions of years.

★ For the intermediate term — nuclear fusion power, using basically cheap "raw materials," available in such plentiful abundance that their exhaustion is not even predicted.

★ For the nearer term — breeder nuclear reactors which provide new fuel as a by-product, thereby stretching our resources of atomic fuel for a very long time to come.

★ For "today," these sci-

tists had been predicting a widespread use of marginal coal, oil shale and other resources by efficient methods to be developed in this nation's laboratories and a much wider use of "conventional" atomic power plants.

Yet these same conferences reported time and again that heavy restrictions had been placed on research budgets in crucial areas — where breakthroughs seemed possible.

Today, solutions to all the above problems are proceeding — but slowly. There seem to be no insurmountable technical difficulties. But research takes effort, men and materials and that means money. Crash programs require "multiples" of money, as witness the race to the moon.

If we could, as a nation, afford to spend upwards of \$20 billion over the span of a few years on space missions, why have we not been able to bring into being a crash program of energy research? Why is it that we spend for energy a fraction of what we spend on space when energy growth is vital to the nation's existence?

If the United States and private industry would spend on energy research and related basic studies proportionately as much as the nation's chemical and drug industries do in their product areas, the United States could bring into being a fuel-power research crash program considerably greater than the Apollo moon project. It would probably be just as effective.

Marianne Means

Nixon Refurbishes Sinatra's Image



WASHINGTON (KFS) — The Nixon Administration is making a deliberate attempt to refurbish the political credentials of the controversial entertainer Frank Sinatra.

Both President Richard Nixon and Vice President Spiro Agnew are ignoring advice from nervous supporters to drop the famous singer.

The President invited Sinatra to perform at the White House last week and was overheard to make a golfing date with him for July. The Vice President has publicly defended his friendship with Sinatra and appears to be as chummy with him as in the past.

Sinatra plans to spend a great deal of time in this city during the summer months, which he has never before done. He will stay in a tastefully furnished mansion which is the residence of Agnew's assistant Peter Malatesta. And he intends to be visible on the city's gossipy social scene.

So far, so good.

A few months ago, Sinatra's name was mud in Republican political circles. Coily written news stories depicted him as romping recklessly in the Palm Springs sunshine with Agnew.

His obscene outburst at social columnist Maxine Cheshire during inaugural festivities resurrected old speculation about his private behavior patterns and his associations with questionable underworld figures.

Several White House advisers urged the President to cancel the tentative plans for a Sinatra performance and to order Agnew not to be seen again in public with Sinatra. The pressure mounted to the point where Agnew associates finally began assuring concerned outsiders that Agnew had personally examined Justice Department files dealing with Sinatra's alleged connections with Mafia leaders. They added that Agnew had also discussed the matter with Sinatra, who had explained that "nearly everybody in show business" was acquainted with some underworld figures, because they were involved in the night club business. The Agnew aides said the Vice President had concluded there was no reason to reject either Sinatra's friendship or his hospitality.

(A decade ago, apparently on the basis of similar Justice Department files, Attorney General Robert Kennedy persuaded President John Kennedy to stop socializing with Sinatra, although the singer had campaigned for Kennedy in 1960 and starred at his Inaugural gala.)

Sinatra's political comeback here last week went off well. The stage for the new Sinatra image was set at a fashionable party given by Malatesta two evenings before the White House performance.

The press, with which Sinatra has had so much trouble, was not avoided. In fact, the press was actually cultivated. Approximately half of the guest list consisted of newspaper writers, columnists, television commentators and television executives. Many were of a conservative philosophy, but not all.

Sinatra was a picture of sobriety and civility. There was no sign of the famous temper. He circulated among the crowd as though he felt as much at home in political Washington as in more familiar show business haunts.

The Russians Are Coming

Basketball nationalists will not soon forget the court long pass taken by Russian Alexandr Belov in the Olympics last year. The six-foot-nine forward dunked the ball with not an American defender in sight, winning the game by a point and handing the United States its first defeat in Olympic basketball history. The controversial second chance ending was hotly disputed but appeals to the International Olympic Committee were fruitless. The Russians had won.

Now comes sweet revenge, or so some think, when the Russian team begins a seven-game tour of the United States with a contest in Salt Lake City on Thursday. For awhile, it appeared

that the tour would be a bust because the National Collegiate Athletic Association was going to bar players under its jurisdiction from playing in the games, sponsored by the rival Amateur Athletic Union. Only after 58 U.S. Senators signed a letter asking the NCAA to set aside its opposition was the matter resolved. For its part, the AAU agreed to formally apply for the services of NCAA undergraduate players.

The running battle between the NCAA and the AAU is faintly ridiculous but it is no fun for the athletes. In order to prove who really runs amateur sports, both organizations penalize athletes under the rival jurisdiction. Time magazine noted recently, "When the NCAA refuses to clear its athletes for an AAU meet one week, the AAU gets revenge the next by neglecting to submit for certification a world record set by an NCAA runner." What suffers most is the morale of the competitors and the image of sports.

Nothing, it seems, can end the feud. In one of the most celebrated quarrels who was to pick athletes for the 1964 Olympics Gen. Douglas MacArthur was called in to mediate. Presidents and independent arbitration boards have interested themselves in the bickering to no avail.

Perhaps a bill now pending in Congress will help. It sets a fine of \$10,000 for any supervisory organization which penalizes college players or coaches who represent the United States in international competition.

THANKS FOR BUYING CANDY

Editor, I want to thank all that have bought candy from my son. He is trying to help earn money for his baseball association. I realize a lot of organizations have been having candy sales lately. Although it may seem tiresome it is a lot harder on the children than most realize.

Children don't control what they sell, when, or Price. We as adults do give lasting impressions to these children by our attitudes. In the past week I have seen more rudeness, nastiness, and bad manners from adults than from children. I am sure it will stick in the minds of these children for sometime.

It is these impressions that convince children, adults don't practice what they preach. The results of these sales also show how much or how little we as adults practice support of the many children's organizations. If we won't buy their goods who will?

I'm not referring to just my town but the whole of Berrien County. These children give their time and energy to sell something not to ask for charity. Please treat my child as you'd like me to treat yours if he or she stopped me or knocked on my door.

Mrs. Anita Halford
4680 Defield road
Coloma.

IRS Gets Shirt Of Taxpayer

CHICAGO (AP) — The Illinois Department of Revenue has deposited a shirt, sent to the department by a Danville man, in the First National Bank of Chicago.

James E. Dolbee wrote a check on the shirt in payment for his 1972 state income taxes.

A department spokesman said Dolbee "wrote a check drawn on the Second National Bank of Danville on a short-sleeved white shirt that looked as if it has been worn."

The spokesman, who did not disclose the amount of the check, said it was mailed in a manila envelope.

"A note was attached implying that the state had taken the shirt off his back," the spokesman said.



"I'm looking for LIBERATION, for FULFILLMENT! And what do I get?—Take a letter, Ms. Smith!"

THE HERALD-PRESS

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Freedom Tree Planting Ceremony

Ex-POW Coming Here Sunday

Major Joseph Shanahan of Grand Rapids, an Air Force pilot shot down over North Vietnam on Aug. 15, 1968, will attend a Freedom Tree Dedication, being held in his honor at the Boy Scout Center, 2920 Lakeview drive, St. Joseph, Sunday, at 3 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. James Falvey, co-chairman of the ceremony said a 1 p.m. luncheon at the Boy Scout Center will precede the freedom tree dedication ceremonies. Attending the luncheon will be invited guests and POW and MIA families. The event is sponsored by the Michigan POW committee.

At a recent news conference, Major Shanahan, who was in the last group of POW's released, said that he was so severely abused by the North Vietnamese villagers when his plane was shot down that he required an intestinal operation three months after he was captured in a "filthy" Hanoi hospital.

He said he was beaten, spat upon, stoned, and forced to at-

tend political rallies. "I lost about 30 pounds," he said. "I was so hungry I was digging up roots and eating them raw." He described the use of torture to force propaganda statements as "the old Stalinist line where everybody has to admit his crime."

Major Shanahan, his wife Barbara, and their two children live in Grand Rapids. He is a 1954 graduate of the University of Omaha. Shanahan joined the Air Force in 1956 and was on his third tour of duty in Vietnam when his plane was shot down.

Shanahan has area ties, as his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Terry Essex, reside in South Haven. Essex is a Michigan State Police trooper.

Included among the honored guests at the dedication will be former Prisoners of War from World War II, the Korean War, and possibly other recently returned Vietnam POW's. All

POW MIA families with Michigan ties have been invited to attend.

Speaking at the dedication ceremonies, besides Major Shanahan, will be Army Captain Robert Tennyson, a Vietnam veteran who has been active in Project POW since returning to the states, and Rev. Henry Reinwald, the Michigan State Chaplain for the VFW.

The plaque, which will be unveiled at the dedication reads as follows: "The Freedom Tree — With the vision of universal freedom to all mankind, this tree is dedicated to Major Joseph Shanahan and all prisoners of war and missing in action."

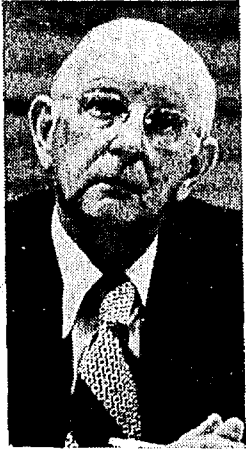
Also expected to be in attendance are State Sen. Gary Byker (R-Hudsonville) and State Reps. Ray Mitten (R-Benton Harbor) and Harry Gast (R-Stevensville). Various veteran groups will also be represented. The public is invited to attend the dedication ceremonies at 3 p.m. Sunday.



MAJ. JOSEPH SHANAHAN

BH, Sodus Wait Verdict On Transfer

BY ALAN AREND
Staff Writer
BERRIEN SPRINGS — A decision by the Berrien County Intermediate School Board on whether to grant a second



HOSPITALIZED: Ralph Lehman, chairman of Berrien Intermediate school board, was rushed to hospital Tuesday after suffering chest pains and did not participate in public hearing on Sodus transfer petition.

transfer request by Sodus area petitioners seeking transfer from the Benton Harbor to Eau Claire school district will be given May 4.

Last night the Intermediate board at a public hearing held in the high school gymnasium here once again listened to the pros and cons of the transfer request.

Approximately two years ago, the Intermediate board heard a similar request and at that time the vote ended in a 2-2 deadlock. That request was eventually turned down by the State Board of Education.

Raymond Sreboth, superintendent of Benton Harbor area schools, informed the Intermediate board that the Benton Harbor board of education by a vote of 6 to 1 approved the transfer request. Two years ago, the Benton Harbor board disapproved a similar request.

Sheldon Rosenberg, speaking on behalf of the Eau Claire board of education, said Eau Claire is not opposed to the transfer, providing two qualifications are met.

The qualifications specify that Eau Claire board is not willing to pay more than \$1 for the



INTERMEDIATE BOARD: Members of the Berrien County Intermediate school board listen attentively during public hearing on proposed transfer of Sodus area from Benton Harbor to Eau Claire school district. Seated from left are board members Ben Nye, Donald Stover, Lawrence

Peacey, and Adrian VanGinhoven. At right are Doyle Barkmeier, Intermediate superintendent and James Walton, Intermediate administrative assistant. Ralph Lehman, the board's president was absent last night due to illness. The board's decision will be announced May 4. (Staff photo)

Sodus school building, and reserve for its board the right to review its decision after the amount of Benton Harbor debt Eau Claire would have to assume becomes known.

The new proposed transfer would switch the old Sodus, Chadwick and Mt. Pleasant school districts from the Benton Harbor district to Eau Claire's. The Stump district, included in the original petition, would be left in the Benton Harbor district, according to the new petition.

All members of the Intermediate board were present at last night's hearing except Ralph Lehman of Niles, board president, who was taken ill yesterday afternoon and rushed to a South Bend hospital with chest pains.

Prior to Sodus area petitioners presentation, Mrs. Ilene Fox, a Sodus township resident and lone member of the Benton Harbor school board to vote against the transfer request, challenged the petitions saying they differ in the written description of the boundaries involved. The Intermediate board made note of Mrs. Fox's challenge.

Speaking on behalf of the Sodus township petitioners were Mrs. Polly Becht, Mrs. Mary Jane Carlson, Mrs. Zelma Fellner, and Eau Claire tuition students Patti Scott and Elmer Flenner.

A total of 14 persons from the crowd of 125 spoke out in opposition to the transfer, including former Benton Harbor prominent school board members and some area officials.

Reasons cited on behalf of the Sodus petitioners were basically the same as given two years ago in their first request: The petitioning area is more contiguous to the Eau Claire district; they prefer a smaller school with more individualized attention to students; decline in their property values; fear for their children's safety; a loss of community identity; and the busing problem.

"More important," Mrs. Becht said, "is the fact that over two-thirds of the property owners in the petitioning district seek this transfer."

Mrs. Fox speaking in opposition to the transfer cited 17 reasons why it should again be denied. She said the "Proposed transfer... from the Benton Harbor area schools... would be unconstitutional under the provisions of both the U.S. Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Michigan."

"The racial isolation promulgated by an official act of an official state school body would constitute a de jure act of segregation for which the various school boards would be responsible," she said. "It would aggravate and intensify the racial isolation which has

already occurred in the Benton Harbor district."

In rebuttal, Mrs. Becht said, "We do not want this to become a racial issue, for it is not. Not all black people feel like those who spoke here tonight." She said outside groups have attempted to make the transfer petition a racial "football".

Lawrence E. Crockett, district executive of the Michigan Civil Rights Commission, said "In as much as the Benton Harbor area school board has a constitutional responsibility to all of the pupils in that school system we think they were derelict in their duty in not op-

posing the Sodus transfer petition. The granting of the proposed Sodus area transfer would result in a permanent and total loss to all the children in

(See back page, sec. 1, col. 5)

SJ Woman Hurt In Car Mishap

A St. Joseph woman was admitted to Memorial hospital Tuesday evening after a reported mechanical defect caused her car to run off the road into a ditch.

Admitted for observation was Marcia Ann Pierman, 18, of 1402 Timberland road. Berrien county deputies said she received several bruises and scrapes to her arms and legs.

She was west bound on Glenford road, west of Hollywood road, in Royalton township, at the time of the accident. She told deputies that suddenly the car began to veer to the right, and the steering wheel would not control it.

Traffic Deaths

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
April 25 State Police Press
This year 600
Last year 592

SJ Officials Can't Halt Postal Move

St. Joseph Mayor Franklin H. Smith said yesterday: "It looks like there isn't much more we can do" in way of protesting to prevent transfer of most St. Joseph post office workers to the Benton Harbor office.

Smith commented after a St. Joseph delegation met with a Postal Service official. Smith said the official pledged that 30 to 45-minute postal service for St. Joseph would result from the transfer. It was announced last month that the personnel shift would take place in 45 to 60 days.

The St. Joseph delegation indicated a close check would be kept on the pledge of faster service, Smith said.

Loren C. Glover, mail processing representative for the Postal Service's Grand Rapids district office, told the group the transfer is necessary because more space is needed for St. Joseph operations.

The St. Joseph delegation which met with Glover included Mayor Smith, John S. Stubblefield, president of the Peoples State Bank of St. Joseph, St. Joseph City Manager Leland L. Hill and Robert McMullen, St. Joseph postmaster. The meeting was held in Stubblefield's office Tuesday afternoon.

With Glover was a representative of the Kalamazoo regional postal distribution center.

Mayor Smith said there was no indication the post office will retreat on the issue. He said Glover apparently is the man who has orders to put the change into effect and he plans to do it. He said city officials and businessmen have protested to the congressional delegation, to the post office and have run out of places to complain.

Smith said he wasn't convinced that the promise of faster service won't be eaten up by travel time through the Twin City bottleneck, the Main street and Wayne street bridges. When construction of the new bridges is underway, Mayor Smith said, that could pose an additional time barrier.

Glover explained the department needed 450 square feet of floor space to put into operation the mail handling innovations he said were necessary to speed up the

delivery system. That much space is available only in the new Benton Harbor post office, he said.

He repeated previous announced assurances that St. Joseph will continue to have a post office and that the post office personnel will continue to serve St. Joseph and be a part of the St. Joseph system. But he said he could not pledge the personnel of the two post offices would never be merged because he didn't know how long he would be in his present position.

Lee Nowler, president of the St. Joseph letter carriers local, charged earlier that the transfer would slow postal service in St. Joseph.

'Black Pearl' Contest Theme

Black Pearl is the theme of the NAACP queen contest, to be held at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, in the Benton Harbor high school auditorium.

The contest is sponsored by the Happiness Bloom club, headed by Mrs. David Davis. Contest chairman is Miss Helen McKenzie. Bill Robbins of radio station WSNM will serve as master of ceremonies.

Tickets may be purchased at the door Saturday night, or from members of the Happiness Bloom club, or contestants.

Told To Repay Mispent Funds

WASHINGTON (AP) — Four more states today were added to the growing list of jurisdictions ordered to repay more than \$20 million in federal education funds they are accused of misspending.

The U.S. Office of Education disclosed it is seeking repayment of \$159,119 for Alaska, \$5,100 for Delaware, \$235,946 from Nebraska and \$1,306 from New Jersey.

SJ TOWNSHIP

Landfill Services

Free On Saturday

The second "free day at the landfill" for St. Joseph township residents will be this Saturday, Supervisor Orval L. Benson reminded residents today.

The township will pick up the tab for all trash and refuse brought in by residents during the normal hours the dump is open. This is 8 a. m. to 2 p. m.

But Benson said, this is not a neighborhood pick-up service. The "free day at the dump" enables residents with large objects that normally are not picked up by the trash and garbage collector to take them out to the dump. Usually a 50 cent to \$1 charge is assessed individuals taking refuse to the dump.

The Northwestern Berrien Landfill is located on Smallidge road in Benton township behind Ross field.

Veteran St. Joe Teacher Retires



DONALD F. BLUNT
Teacher Retires

Donald F. Blunt, 60, 3820 Lake Shore drive, St. Joseph, has announced his retirement after 33 years of teaching, 25 years in the St. Joseph Public schools.

Blunt wrote to school officials he wished to resign from his post as guidance director and end his teaching career effective at the end of the current school term.

Blunt taught in Nebraska and Illinois before coming to St. Joseph in July, 1948. He taught American government, U. S. History and economics. He became a counselor in 1956 and last year was named guidance director.

He said he plans a "semi-retirement."

LOOKING AHEAD

Royalton Growth Group Organizes

Atty. Robert Locke, Adolph Dongvillo Jr. and Fred Schalon were elected temporary directors of the proposed Royalton Township Improvement association by 30 persons attending an organizational meeting last night in Royalton township hall.

The three men, functioning as an organizing group, will submit to the state proposed articles of incorporation and, when approved, call a membership meeting to elect permanent directors and officers.

The proposed non-profit corporation currently has 41 members, Schalon said, including farmers, residents and business people.

Purpose of the association is to assist township officials in planning for the future orderly growth and development of Royalton township.

Model Cities Youths Will Get Work

Fifteen Benton Harbor youths will be employed next week to clean up and maintain the Model Cities neighborhood within the city, under an \$8,938 pilot project.

The employment will be part time for seven weeks and is expected to start next Monday, according to Ben Davis, Model Cities director. He said the pay will be \$1.60 an hour, the same as for Neighborhood Youth Corps participants.

The Benton Harbor city commission approved the contract with the city's public services department last Monday.

The youths, to be employed through the public services department, will be Model Cities residents.

Davis said the \$8,938 budget includes a \$3,360 Model Cities grant, earmarked for paying the youths.

The remaining \$5,578 is pegged as in-kind services from the public services department. This includes three full time supervisors for the seven weeks (one for each five employees), \$2,680; one secretary to work 25 per cent of her time on the project, \$798; and the use of two public services department trucks on a full time basis, \$2,100.

The supervisors are already in the city budget for seasonal work. The secretary is on the city payroll. Her time and use of the trucks are chargeoffs to the project.

Davis said the youths will work about 20 hours a week.

'Free' Disaster Loans Open To Farmers

Emergency "free" disaster loans for area farmers who suffered losses from various natural weather disasters in 1972 have been reopened for an 18-day period thru May 8, according to Robert Howland, Berrien county Farmers Home Administration (FHA) supervisor.

Howland said the loans, of which the first \$5,000 or amount of loss, which ever is less, are free, are open to all farmers in

Berrien, Cass, Van Buren and Allegan counties who have not already received similar type loans for the same disasters.

He said to be eligible a farmer must have suffered losses from either the January freeze, dry spring weather, or June frost of 1972. The loss must equal at least 10 percent of the total farm gross income or 20 percent of any one major crop. The loans are designed to help farmers meet operating expenses in

this year, he said. A one percent interest rate will be charged for loans over \$5,000.

Howland said meetings will be held on Wednesday, May 2, at 7:30 p.m. and on Thursday, May 3, starting at 9 a.m. at the Youth Memorial Building in Berrien Springs, to explain the program to area farmers and to take their applications.

Howland said that about 650 county farmers — mostly fruit

growers—received such loans earlier in the year, but others missed the deadline and the program has been reopened by Congress to accommodate these farmers.

He said growers in Cass, Allegan and Van Buren counties should contact their own county FHA office concerning the loan program.

Time Issue A Continuing Battle In State



MARK W. HICKOK
Valedictorian



ALAN KINNE
Salutatorian

History Of Controversy Dates Back To 1885

When southwestern Michigan residents push their clocks ahead an hour to "fast" time this weekend it won't be the first time they have tinkered with their clocks.

Michigan has pushed back and forth across the boundary between the Central and Eastern time zones for the better part of a century, and its people have battled furiously many springs over whether to go on daylight saving time.

The geographical boundary between the Eastern and Central time zones runs north and south up through virtually the middle of Michigan. And in 1885, the state legislature decided that Michigan would be officially placed in its entirety in the Central time zone.

But in 1914, Detroit voted itself into Eastern Standard time. Then in 1918, Michigan officially caught up with Detroit and went on EST too.

The next year, the state went back to Central time, although Detroit stubbornly kept its clocks on Eastern time. In 1931, Michigan again went back to the Eastern zone. Most of the hassles over which time zone to be in had been along an east-west division. However, the Upper Peninsula split off from the lower peninsula in 1936 and took itself back to the Central

zone.

On Feb. 17, 1945, the Michigan legislature adopted CST. On Sept. 25, 1945, Congress placed Michigan in the Eastern zone, and five days later an opinion from the attorney general of Michigan placed the state in the Eastern zone.

It has been there ever since, except that now the boards of commissioners of Berrien, Cass and Van Buren counties are attempting to get this area moved back over to the Central zone.

The question of "fast" time or "slow" time, a separate matter but closely linked and sometimes confused with time zone changes, has produced as many battles as zone changes. The squabbles have been hotter over fast time because people in the communities took opposing sides.

This newspaper's files show Berrien county had Daylight saving time as far back as 1923, and again in 1929-30-31. Every year there was a debate whether to push the clock ahead an hour for the summer months, with farmers opting against daylight saving time and businesses favoring fast time.

In 1929, DST was voted down, but since merchants and businesses favored it clocks in the Twin Cities generally were pushed ahead. The official clock in the Benton Harbor city hall stayed on Standard, or slow, time, but the city offices operated on fast time.

In 1960, Congress decreed in the Uniform Time act that Daylight Saving time would go into effect each summer in all states and all time zones, unless individual states voted to exempt themselves.

Michigan, along with just Arizona and Hawaii, voted to stay on Standard time. However, the Detroit area secured petitions requiring a statewide referendum and Michigan had to go on fast time one summer until the referendum was decided. Voters said "Stay on Standard time" by a slim margin. Again last year, Detroit rounded up another petition for a referendum on fast time, and last November in the general election voters said fast time should prevail each summer.

So Michigan will switch to Daylight Saving time at 2 a.m.

Sunday.

Even so, southwestern Michigan's Berrien, Cass and Van Buren counties are under consideration for a switch from the Eastern Time zone to the Central zone. Should the Secretary of Transportation agree, this area would still observe fast time, but in the Central zone. That would mean leaving the clocks where they are now.

Anybody know what time it is?



JIM VAN HORN
Valedictorian



ALLAN COPPOCK
Salutatorian

Bloom'dale Announces Its Honor Graduates

BLOOMINGDALE — Valedictorian and salutatorian of the Bloomington high school class of 1973 have been announced by school officials.

Valedictorian is Jim Van Horn, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Van Horn, route 1, Bloomington.

Allan Coppock, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Schlauch, route 1, Pullman, is salutatorian.

Van Horn, who has been accepted for enrollment in the fall at Michigan State university, says he plans to study criminal justice with a view toward a police career, is a member of National Honor society and is vice president of the senior class.

He also is editor of the school yearbook. Last year, he was president of the junior class and as a freshman served as a student commission representative.

Coppock, also a member of the National Honor society, has been a member of concert and marching bands for four years, serving as captain of the band this year. He is senior representative on the student commission and was vice president of his freshman class.

He was a member of the football team and is on the track team. He said he plans to study engineering at the University of Michigan.

Two Boys Named Top Galien Students

GALIEN — Two boys have been named top students among 58 graduating seniors at Galien schools, according to Robert Busher, acting superintendent.

Mark W. Hickok, son of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Hickok, 203 Southeastern avenue, Galien, is valedictorian with a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

Salutatorian is Alan Kinne, son of Mrs. Dorothy Kinne, route 1, box 104, Galien.

Hickok is president of Galien chapter of National Honor society, and has been active in journalism, baseball, basketball, cross country and Student Council. His future plans are undecided at this time.

Kinne hopes to become a philosopher. He has majored in mathematics, with a special interest in writing and reading. He plans to attend Lake Michigan college, transferring later to a larger university.

LMC Dean Heads Michigan Week Activities Here

Charlie K. Field, Lake Michigan college dean of community services, has been appointed Berrien county Michigan Week chairman to coordinate activities and programs in the county for presentation during the 20th annual state promotion and appreciation celebration May 19-26.

"It is my hope that all mayors, village presidents, and Chambers of Commerce in Berrien county will actively participate in Michigan Week, May 19-26, in a cooperative, volunteer effort to promote and advertise the great state we live in," Field said.

Primary purpose of the eight-day effort is to sell Michigan to the nation, the

world, and to its own residents. The week is also designed to offer Michigan citizens a greater knowledge about the state and its assets and to develop a spirit of cooperation within the state among groups, government and individuals.

Communities and organizations in all of the state's 83 counties are scheduled to take part in Michigan Week. The emphasis will be on locally-developed activities, plans and programs.

Theme of the celebration this year is "Michigan — What you seek is what you get," said to be based on the state's official motto, "If you seek a pleasant peninsula, look about you."

Saturday, May 19, has been



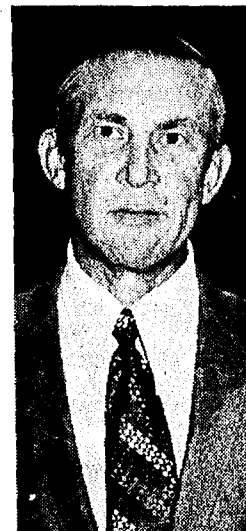
CHARLIE K. FIELD

designated Community Pride Day; Sunday, Spiritual Foundation Day; Monday, Government Day; Tuesday, Heritage Day; Wednesday, Livelihood Day; Thursday, Education Day; Friday, Hospitality Day; and Saturday, Youth Day.

According to Field, volunteers are needed to assist in the distribution of posters, pamphlets, and other materials and to perform other functions.

"We will welcome volunteers from practically every age group, from high school age on up," Field said. "Those interested in taking part in this exciting and colorful activity should get in touch with my office on the LMC Napier avenue campus as soon as possible."

General chairman of the 1973 Michigan Week celebration is Robert Willemink, group vice president, Whirlpool Corporation. Deputy general chairman in charge of Area B, the Lower Peninsula western counties, is William Biggs, of Communications Technics Center, Inc., Kalamazoo.



CHAIRMAN: William Frobel, 43, Park road, Coloma was elected chairman of Coloma parent advisory committee on anti-drug abuse programs last night. Committee is to assist in development of anti-drug abuse curriculum for Coloma school system. Frobel's wife, Sandi, was elected secretary.

Public Can Write On Time Zone Plan

Persons and organizations that wish to comment either for or against the proposal to switch Berrien, Van Buren and Cass counties to the Central Time zone will be able to do so by mail.

The Federal Register published in Washington, D.C., on April 23, said written comments received on or before June 1, 1973, will be considered before the Department of Transportation (DOT) makes its decision on the proposal.

Earlier it was announced here that DOT representatives will conduct public hearings in each of the three counties on May 14-16 to hear verbal comments on the issue.

Carl Gnodtke, a Berrien county commissioner fighting fast time, said he and his compatriots have dropped a plan to ask the federal court in Grand Rapids to enjoin the onset of Daylight Savings Time in southwestern Michigan Sunday on recommendation from Berrien Prosecutor Ronald J. Taylor.

Taylor conferred with other area prosecutors and advised against suit to keep from "muddying the waters" and possibly jeopardizing Department of Transportation hearings in this area May 14-16 to hear comments on the time is-

sue, Gnodtke said Tuesday.

According to the Federal Register, persons who submit written comments should note on their letters that they concern OST Docket No. 21. The letters should be addressed to: Docket Clerk, Office of the General Counsel T.G.C., Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C., 20590. The Federal Register noted that the fact the switch from Eastern to Central time zone is under consideration does not exempt the three counties from observing Eastern Daylight Saving time beginning at 2 a.m. Sunday.

The proposal was submitted

to the Secretary of Transportation by the boards of commissioners of Berrien, Van Buren and Cass counties.

Michigan will observe fast time this year as result of the statewide referendum last November that put the state under the 1966 Federal Uniform Time act. The act calls for Daylight Saving time, or fast time, each year from late April through late October.

Should the switch to Central Time be ordered, the area will be obliged to follow fast time—in the Central zone. Time here then would be the same as Chicago's year around.

Barkmeier Reelected Tax Board Chairman

The Berrien county tax allocation board met Tuesday in the courthouse, St. Joseph, and re-elected Doyle Barkmeier, superintendent of the Berrien county Intermediate school district, as 1973 chairman.

The board also scanned some township and school district budgets and set a tentative schedule of budget reviews in May, accord-

ing to County Clerk Forrest H. Kesterko, clerk of the board.

The board sets a tentative split of 15 mills of county tax in May, then holds a public hearing and sets a final split usually in early June. Taxes are split annually between local school districts, intermediate district, townships and county government.

Cass Property Tax Base Rises By \$19 Million

CASSOPOLIS — A report setting the equalized value of property in Cass county at \$190,500,423 for 1973 was adopted by the Cass board of commissioners yesterday.

The total is up about \$19 million over the 1972 figure of \$171,703,946.

Equalization Director Robert Collar said the figure stemmed from property value assessments amounting to \$177,742,423 multiplied by a factor aimed at setting the value at 50 per cent of market value. The factors ranged from 1 to 1.19, he said.

The report is to be submitted to the state tax commission for consideration.

Collar said figures from two assessing units — Milton and Jefferson townships — are included in the equalization report, even though they do not have certified assessing officers.

He said he is not certain what

action, if any, will be taken by the tax commission. Last December, the commission notified all assessing units that they could not prepare 1973 assessment rolls without a certified assessor.

Collar attributed the increase in valuation to adjustments made in old assessments, plus about \$6 million in new residential, commercial and small industrial construction and about \$3.5 million in increased personal property.

The new equalized valuation, if accepted by the state tax commission and if the county's millage rate remains at its present 5.75 mills, will increase revenue to the county general fund by about \$109,000, Collar indicated.

New equalized valuations, real and personal property, with last year's equalized value in parentheses, included: LaGrange township, \$16,035,270 (\$14,539,637); Porter township,

\$15,844,823 (\$14,767,897); Silver Creek township, \$18,887,798 (\$15,255,763); Wayne township, \$9,379,260 (\$8,229,728); Dowagiac city, \$24,917,005 (\$23,819,996).

Commissioner Carl Hingley of Edwardsburg suggested that the two townships without certified assessing officers be contacted to determine what they are doing to meet the state requirement. Collar said the equalization department does not have staff available to assess the units.

In other business, the commission instructed clerk Kenneth Poe to authorize payments to local governmental units on \$1 per capita basis of \$43,000 for road improvements appropriated in March so road programs can be contracted by May 1.

Robert Powers, Marcellus commissioner, reported that \$155,413 has accumulated in the special fund for courthouse renovation from the one mill tax

with \$16,226 in delinquent taxes outstanding.

A study on site and space requirements is underway, he said.

The board adopted a resolution to create a subcommittee of Cass, Van Buren and Berrien counties under the Michiana Council of Governments to in-

order to make application by May 1 for a \$25,000 state grant.

Commissioner Charles Sarabyn, Dowagiac, reported that a meeting on the time question has been scheduled for 7:30 p.m. May 15 in the courthouse annex. A representative of the U.S. Department of Transportation will attend, he said.

The meeting will deal with the county's request for transfer to the central time zone to avoid Eastern Daylight Savings time.

Kenneth Fox was appointed by the commission to the manpower planning and public employment program board.

\$870,000

Disaster Study Bill Signed By Milliken

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — A bill to pump \$500,000 of state money into emergency flood relief programs and another \$370,000 into shoreline erosion studies has been signed into law by Gov. William Milliken.

The disaster relief money will help pay for costs of state personnel during the mid-March flooding along most of Michigan's eastern shore and the cleanup that followed.

The shoreline erosion grant will go to pay for demonstration projects which Milliken believes

will show that gouged out lakeshores added to flood damage.

"Because there is no immediate hope of lake levels diminishing for at least several months, the threat of flooding will be facing us in many parts of Michigan for some time, which in turn will mean that state agencies again and again will be called on to assist people," Milliken said.

"Nature has hit Michigan in recent months as it has seldom before," he said.